

EXCHANGES:  
Closing Quotations—  
T.T. London 34/1d.  
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# The Hongkong Telegraph

(ESTABLISHED 1851)

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April 13, 1918. Temperature 5 a.m. 58 2 p.m. 71  
Humidity 91

WEATHER FORECAST  
DULL.  
Barometer 29.84.  
April 13, 1917. Temperature 5 a.m. 70 2 p.m. 78  
Humidity 96

7916

日三初月三

SATURDAY, APRIL 13, 1918.

大拜禮 三月十四日英曆

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## REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

### THE FIGHTING IN FRANCE AND FLANDERS.

#### GREAT ACTIVITY OVER THE WHOLE FRONT.

##### Heavy Fighting in Flanders.

London, April 12.  
A French communiqué states:—There is a violent artillery duel at certain points north of Montdidier and in the region of Lagny. We repulsed last night and this morning two somewhat heavy attacks in the sector of Noyon. There is an intermittent cannonade on both banks of the Meuse. During March 23 enemy aeroplanes were brought down by anti-aircraft defences.

##### Activity of Guns on Both Sides.

London, April 11.  
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters writing on April 10 says:—Relative quiet is prevailing from Hangard to Noyon. The French carried out a small infantry attack on Grivecourt Chateau, locally improving their position in the park. Guns are active on both sides all along the front. Along the whole front the Germans have done little trench digging. Enemy airmen are more active but are showing little inclination to take the offensive, chiefly patrolling their own side of the front in powerful groups of a dozen or more machines with the object of preventing our flights.

##### German Official Message.

London, April 11.  
A German wireless official message states:—Between Armentières and Festubert we stormed Boisgriens and Neuve Chapelle. We crossed Lys at Boesmans and captured Hollabeke. Yesterday we stormed the Messines heights and pushed forward as far as Ploegsteert Wood. We reached the Ploegsteert and Armentières Road. We reached Lys and the river north-east of Bethune. The prisoners captured now number over 10,000 including a Portuguese general.

##### The Situation in Flanders.

London, April 11.  
Reuter's correspondent at British Headquarters writing in the evening, states:—The situation in Flanders is generally regarded to-day as being fairly well in hand, but fighting continues on a heavy scale and is likely to continue. What success the Germans have achieved has developed out of an advance in the centre of the original front. The attack was helped by misty weather. The territory which the enemy has overrun was very sparsely populated by civilians and as regards the character of the country is a barren gain. Moreover, the enemy communications have lengthened across long tracts of clay. The weather improved in the morning, and the enemy was forced to retreat. At ten o'clock in the morning the enemy was furiously attacked against Hollabeke. Fighting with great intensity followed. Massed waves of the enemy advanced over heavy ground flanking Roesbeek, making a great target for riflemen and machine-guns. The execution is described as being terrible. Comparatively few of the enemy got to grips with the defenders. Eventually the attack was completely repulsed, the struggling retreat being followed by field guns until the enemy disappeared in the mist. Around Ploegsteert Wood and Estaires there has been continual fighting. The results are at present not known. The enemy brought up more reserves and we also have thrown in reinforcements. North-west of Armentières and in the direction of Ploegsteert large bodies of German infantry are reported to be massing by airman. Artillery was heavily concentrated there. The evacuation of Armentières was carried out very successfully, the enemy not attempting to press our retirement. The whole place is a vast cess pit of mustard gas and the soldiers have had a welcome release therefrom.

##### Sir Douglas Haig's Report.

London, April 11.  
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig in a communiqué states:—The enemy pressed attacks strongly all day long on the whole of the northern battle front. Fresh divisions are continually heavily committed in the region of Lys river, between Lomme and Lestrem. Our Fifty-First Division best off incessant attacks inflicting great losses and recaptured positions by vigorous counter attacks. There is heavy fighting at Estaires and between Estaires and Stenwerk. In this sector the enemy attacked in strength and pushed back our line to just north of these places. The enemy determinedly attacked this morning north of Armentières and made some progress in the neighbourhood of Ploegsteert Wood. Our Ninth Division completely repulsed with great loss another heavy attack in the neighbourhood of Wytschaete and Hollabeke. Fighting continues along the whole front between Le Basses Canal and Ypres-Comines Canal.

##### Heavy Fighting Near Ploegsteert, Messines and Wytschaete.

London, April 11.  
In a communiqué Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig states:—The battle is continuing on the whole front from Le Basses Canal to Ypres-Comines Canal. Severe fighting occurred in the neighbourhood of the Lys and Lys Canals from about Lestrem to Armentières. We have withdrawn from Armentières, which is full of gas. The situation is a little changed. North of Armentières heavy fighting continued up to a late hour last night in the neighbourhoods of Ploegsteert, Messines and Wytschaete.

##### The Nation's Anxiety.

London, April 12.  
The nation is watching with an anxiety unprecedented in the war the progress of the critical battle in northern France. The anxiety is mingled with admiration for the tenacity of the British troops, who are contesting every foot of ground with a stubbornness that has made the enemy pay dearly for his slow advance. At the struggle has swayed on the thirty mile front, observers here in Paris are divided in their opinions of the enemy intentions, one section regarding the new offensive as a diversion meant to draw off British reserves while preparing for a fresh attack at Amiens. Another section believes that it is a definite and systematic attempt to destroy the British Army and break through to Calais, while holding the French in the south. The consensus of opinion now favours the latter theory.

##### The Siamese Mission in Paris.

London, April 12.  
Reuter's correspondent at Paris states that the Siamese Minister presented the members of the Siamese Mission to President Poincaré who congratulated them upon their work.

## REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

### THE FIGHTING IN FRANCE AND FLANDERS.

#### Our Aviators Active.

London, April 11.  
Reporting on aviation Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig states:—Despite the unfavourable weather yesterday our air force bombed and machine-gunned enemy troops. The mist compelled us to fly at the average height of two hundred feet, but we were very heavy gun fire. Enemy planes were shot down. We brought down seven and drove down one. Seven of our machines were shot down. We raided Luxembourg station to-day and dropped a few bombs. Several bursts were observed. All the machines returned despite considerable gun fire.

#### General Foch's Position.

London, April 12.  
In the House of Commons, Mr. Bivar Law, replying to a question as to the position of General Foch, said that the Versailles Council which had so far been working out plans and details concerned, was still going on. General Foch, who was Chairman of the Council, had necessarily taken on other work. He was appointed with the full approval, not merely of the Government but of the Generals concerned, to direct the strategy of both armies, exercising powers of a Generalissimo and directing the strategy of the present battle. Mr. Bivar Law did not think that there was a man inside or outside of the House who was not thankful for this.

#### THE MAN POWER BILL.

##### Another Amendment Defeated.

London, April 12.  
The House of Commons, sitting in Committee on the Man Power Bill, considered an amendment substituting the age limit to forty-eight years instead of fifty. The amendment was defeated by 202 to 152.

##### The Progress of the Bill.

London, April 12.  
The House of Commons adopted the Gallies Revolution regarding the Man Power Bill, which will leave the Commons on Tuesday, and pass through all its stages in the Lords by Thursday.

##### The "Irish Times" Prediction.

London, April 12.  
The Dublin United Irish journal, the "Irish Times," writes Mr. Dillon to make a bargain with the Government, and suggests that six weeks before the Nationalist is in working order, the Nationalists will undertake to raise seven divisions voluntarily.

##### A Nationalist Protest.

London, April 12.  
The Nationalist candidate Mr. Dooley, at the instigation of his supporters, has decided as a protest against conscription not to contest North King's County against the Sinn Féin candidate. Polling had been fixed for April 25. Mr. Dillon, the Nationalist leader, telegraphed advising the abandonment of the contest.

## AMERICA'S WAR PREPARATIONS.

### United States Coastwise Lines Taken Over.

London, April 12.  
Reuter's correspondent at Washington telegraphs that President Wilson has issued a Proclamation directing the taking over of all coastwise shipping lines by noon on April 13, by the Railroad Administration, for operation during the period of the war. The Proclamation says that they will be devoted mainly to transportation of troops and war materials.

## NEWFOUNDLAND'S WAR MEASURES.

### Eligible Unmarried Men not to Leave Colony.

London, April 12.  
Reuter's correspondent at St. John's, Newfoundland, telegraphs that the Legislative Council will meet on April 23 to consider measures to maintain the strength of the Newfoundland Regiment. An Order-in-Council has been issued forbidding the departure from the Colony of all eligible unmarried men.

## THE LONG RANGE GUN BOMBARDMENT.

### 4 Killed 21 Injured.

London, April 12.  
Reuter's correspondent at Paris telegraphs that the long range gun bombardment yesterday hit Croche, killing 4 and injured 21.

## EFFECT OF THE AGE RAISING.

### Only Seven Per Cent. Required This Year.

London, April 11.  
In the House of Commons, Sir Auckland Geddes estimated that only seven per cent. of the men affected by the raising of the age limit would be required this year. The remaining ninety-three per cent would remain in civil life. If three or four years were cut off the age limit the same number of men would be taken from a smaller block and be less fit physically on average grounds. Sir Auckland mentioned that engineers were streaming in the colours. Sir Charles Seely stated that the young men in the Nottingham area had not selected service by ballot but were recruiting voluntarily.

## GERMANY'S TREATMENT OF PRISONERS.

### A "Tragic Record" Revealed.

London, April 12.  
The report of the Committee, presided over by Mr. Justice Younger, on enemy treatment of British war prisoners on the Western Front, constitutes another tragic record of German brutality and calculated deception. It shows that prisoners of war have been systematically compelled to engage in work forbidden by the laws of war, close behind the firing line, thereby deliberately exposed to enemy and Allied gunfire. These inhuman conditions continued after the Anglo-German agreement of last year, whereby no prisoners of war should be employed in any way within three kilometres of the firing line. An instance is quoted where one Allied soldier killed seven and wounded four prisoners of war from Belgium.

## REUTERS' TELEGRAMS.

### THE AUSTRIAN EMPEROR'S STATEMENT.

#### The Controversy Developing.

London, April 12.  
The controversy between M. Clemenceau and the Austrian Emperor is developing into a most important one. The official Vienna statement which was mentioned last night by Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam, was a telegram which the Emperor Karl sent to the Kaiser yesterday, in which he says, inter alia:—I do not intend to renounce M. Clemenceau's false and untrue statement that I recognised that France had a just claim to the re-acquisition of Alsace and Lorraine. At a moment when Austria-Hungary guns are thundering jointly with German cannon on the western front it hardly needs proof that I am fighting for those provinces exactly as if it were a question of my own lands. In face of this eloquent proof of our full community of aims I deem it superfluous to waste words on M. Clemenceau's false assertion. Nevertheless, I desire to take this opportunity of assuring you of the complete solidarity existing between you and me, your Empire and mine. No intrigue and no attempts, no matter from whom they proceed, will impair our loyal comradeship of arms and we shall jointly enforce an honourable peace.

A Paris official message says that a Note was issued last night as a reply to the foregoing. The Note says that Emperor Karl compels the French Government to give prompt reply. The Note reproduces the text of a long letter communicated on March 31, 1917, by Prince Sixte de Bourbon, brother-in-law of Emperor Karl, to President Poincaré, who, with the Prince's assent forwarded it immediately to the French Premier. The following are the chief passages:—"My Dear Sir:—At the end of the third year of war which has brought so much mourning and pain into the world, none can dispute the military advantages won by my troops, especially in the Balkans. France on her side has shown magnificent power of resistance and also. We unreservedly admire the bravery of her army and the spirit of sacrifice of the whole French people. It is particularly agreeable to me that, though momentarily opponents, no real divergence of views or aspirations separates my Empire from France. I am justified in hoping that my lively sympathies for France, joined by those of the prevalent monarchy, will for ever prevent a return to a state of war, for which no responsibility can be assigned to this end, and to show the reality of these sentiments I beg you to convey secretly and unofficially to President Poincaré that I shall support by every means, using all my personal influence with my Allies, France's just claims regarding Alsace-Lorraine. Further, Belgium should be entirely re-established in her sovereignty, keeping the whole of her African possessions, without prejudice as compensation for her loss."

#### Demonstration Against Count Czernin.

London, April 11.  
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam learns from Vienna that a monster Czech demonstration against Count Czernin is being organised at Prague. The Premier has had an audience with the Emperor in that connection. An official statement declares that M. Clemenceau's assertion as regards the Emperor's Alsace-Lorraine letter is pure invention. The fact that Austria-Hungarian troops are fighting on the western front and are in possession of Alsace-Lorraine proves beyond doubt the Emperor's faithfulness as an ally.

#### Austrian Premier Hurries to Vienna.

London, April 12.  
Reuter's Amsterdam correspondent telegraphs that Count Czernin has hurriedly returned to Vienna from Bucharest.

## PRODUCTION OF BRITISH MUNITIONS.

### Considerable Increased Output.

London, April 12.  
Mr. Kellaway, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Munitions, outlined at Bedford, the progress of the production of munitions. The increase in the first two months of 1918 as compared with last year was as follows:—Light guns thirty per cent; medium guns fifty-seven per cent; heavy guns thirty-eight per cent; machine guns ninety-six per cent; shells eighty-three per cent; tanks thirty-nine per cent; aeroplanes 225 per cent and aero engines 245 per cent. The average weekly production of aeroplanes in 1918 equalled the average production for two months of 1915. Simultaneously men were being steadily released for the army. Over 100,000 men were released during 1917. The army was as well equipped to-day as when the German offensive began. All the guns lost had been replaced. We were really stronger in machine guns than at the beginning of the battle. Aerially, we were as strong if not stronger. The lost tanks were being replaced by a superior model, whilst the ammunition had been more than made good.

## THE VLADIVOSTOK SITUATION.

### A Purely Local Affair.

London, April 11.  
In the House of Commons, Lord Robert Cecil stated that owing to murders of Japanese at Vladivostok by bands of robbers, Anglo-Japanese warships at Vladivostok had landed parties to protect the British Consulate and Japanese subjects. The Government had no reason to think that the American Government disapproved of the action, which was of purely local significance.

## RUSSIA'S BALTIC FLEET.

### Sailing from Helsinki to Kronstadt.

London, April 12.  
Reuter's correspondent at Petrograd states that the First Squadron of the Russian Baltic Fleet, composed of battleships and cruisers, has arrived at Kronstadt from Helsinki. The Second Squadron, comprising torpedo-boats and submarines, is reported off Kronstadt. The Third Squadron of transport, armed merchantmen and obsolete torpedo-boats left Helsinki last night. The total number of vessels departed is two hundred.

## AWARDS FOR FAR EASTERN INDIAN SOLDIERS.

London, April 12.  
The London Gazette announces that Military medals have been awarded to Naik Rabb Singh and Naik Ghulam Hussain, both of the Hongkong and Singapore Garrison Artillery. (Continued on page 8.)

## TELEGRAMS.

### (Reuter's Service to The Telegraph.)

#### THE SILVER MARKET.

London, April 12.  
The silver market is quiet.

#### ADVICE TO MOTORISTS.

Japan is the most considerate country in the world in the way of trying to smooth out the language difficulty for foreigners. How exceptionally great this difficulty is may be partly guessed from the following regulations which were issued by the police of "a certain place" to a foreigner who had taken out a motor licence:—

- 1.—You must drive your automobile at the speed of eight knots per hour on the city road and at 12 knots per hour on the country roads.
- 2.—In narrow place of road, corner and bridge speed slowly.
- 3.—When you see the policeman throwing up his hand you must not drive in front of him.
- 4.—When you pass the corner and the bridge ring the horn.
- 5.—When you get ahead of the passenger on foot or the cow or the horse, you must ring the horn.
- 6.—When you meet the cow or the horse speed slowly and take the care to ring the horn and not been afraid of them. Drive slowly when you meet the horse or the cattle, do not make them afraid and carefully make the sound. If they afraid the sound you must escape a little while at the side of the road till they pass away.
- 7.—When you drive the motor car do not leave the driver seat and take care lest unexpected trouble happen.
- 8.—Do not drive the motor car when you get drunk and do not smoke on the driver seat.
- 9.—When two cars are driving in the same road, if there is another car in front of yours or behind yours you must keep 60 yards away from him if you go ahead of him ring horn and pass him.
- 10.—When you cross the railway, wait until the other train and other cars pass through.
- 11.—When anything matter with your car you go Police station and tell him.
- 12.—When you want to have a driver or exchange another, you must enclose drivers' address, career and age.
- 13.—Special Notice you must never put overload on your automobile. The licensed capacity of your Ford car is 5 passengers—two in front and 3 in back house.

#### Landslide at Oskayama.

With the object of changing the route of a section of the railway between Kyoto and Otsu a tunnel is being made through Oskayama. When about a hundred coolies were at work on the morning of the 24th instant at about 9 o'clock, a very extensive landslide occurred. Fortunately no one was caught under the debris, but it is expected that the damage done will cost about ¥10,000 to repair.

#### DON'T FORGET.

##### TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.  
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.  
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

##### TO-MORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.  
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.  
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.



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GENERAL NEWS.

**M. L. Bridou.**  
M. L. Bridou, Agent-General of the Shanghai branch of the Messageries Maritimes, left recently for Japan by the N.Y.K.S. Omi Maru.

**Disorderly Germans.**  
Germans were refused admission to a Tientsin theatre because of a disturbance recently created by their nationals during a performance.

**Capt. Martinson.**  
News has been received by Mrs. Martinson from the Secretary, War Office, that her son (Capt. R. A. Martinson, Essex Regiment), was wounded and missing March 21, no further details.

**Loyalty of Mohammedans Appreciated.**  
The Government has issued orders to the Tibetan and Occupation Commissioners of Szechuan, instructing them to appoint special delegates to the different places to express the appreciation of the Government for the loyalty of the Mohammedan tribes. It is understood that the Government recently received telegrams from the different Mohammedan tribes in Szechuan, pledging their allegiance to the Central Government.

**Chinese Troops for Siberia.**  
According to a Japanese report Premier Tani is ready to dispatch troops to Siberia as soon as funds are raised for the military expenditure. The negotiations for the War Participation Loan are going on smoothly with certain countries, and it is expected that the Government will be able to conclude the loan shortly. The report further states that large quantities of arms and munitions supplied by the Entente Powers are stored in a central place in Harbin and that hostilities will commence as soon as the Government's command declares war on the Bolsheviks.

**Tram-Cars in Tokyo.**  
There is a plan on foot in Tokyo for the introduction of special tram-cars for women, such cars to be attached to the ordinary cars, says the Japan Chronicle. In view of the fact that the women passengers commonly receive the idea is quite a good one, and it is necessary in any case to increase the rolling-stock, which is even less adequate than in Kobe and Osaka. The trams in the Kobe neighbourhood are always overcrowded, that it is perhaps superfluous to suggest a means for increasing the number of passengers. It is certain, however, that if there were open cars from which passengers could enjoy the view as they went along, many people would enjoy the various trips which, taken altogether, make a complete circuit of Osaka Bay. As it is, summer travelling is even nastier than winter. The car is choked with humanity, all facing inwards, and so packed in that it is hardly possible even to discover when the desired station has been reached.

**The Szechuan Muddle.**  
Szechuan is still in a state of turmoil and disorder and the leaders there are divided. Since his recent rise to power, Hsiang Kow-wu has changed his attitude towards Tang Chi-yao and declared Szechuan to be for the Szechuanese. Hsiang is now trying his best to induce the followers of Liu Tiao-ho to join him, but most of the Szechuan troops prefer to stand aloof, turning a deaf ear to the pangs of Tang's call for service. Several days ago, Hsiang Kow-wu dispatched a delegate to Chou Tso-kang inviting his help and co-operation in carrying out his project of placing the government of Szechuan into the hands of the natives, but his request was declined by General Chou, who informed him that he was fully in sympathy with his project but could render him no help. This shows the lack of harmonious relations among the leaders of Szechuan. As to the Yunnanese, they are in a worse condition. Disunion is understood to have broken out among themselves. For the present it is quite impossible to tell when order can be brought about out of the chaos in Szechuan.—Peking Daily News.



## GENERAL NEWS.

**Promotion.**  
Cpl. F. A. Musgrove, of the Shanghai Waterworks, has been promoted Sergeant and is in very good health in Salonika.

**Tokio Smallpox Epidemic.**  
The smallpox epidemic in Tokio continues. An official is reported to blame Shanghai for the outbreak because a foreigner from Shanghai went to Tokio and was there treated for chickenpox, whereas he had smallpox. Why should Shanghai be blamed for Tokio's error, queries the N. C. Daily News.

**Matches on Strike.**  
The Daily Express Calcutta correspondent writes: "English matches are now selling here at the rate of six for a penny—individual matches, not boxes! Japanese matches are being imported by the million, but they are of the ultra-safe kind—most of them will not only strike either on the box or anywhere else."

**Mr. & Mrs. G. Mason.**  
Mr. and Mrs. Gregory Mason left Tokio on the 1st inst. for Peking. After several weeks in China Mr. Mason will sail from Shanghai for France, where he will be the Outlook's correspondent with the Allied armies. Mrs. Mason will return to New York, from where she will proceed to France later, states the Japan Advertiser.

**Arrest of Hunan Mint Chief.**  
Tao Tien-chou, Chief of the Copper Mint in Changsha has been arrested by General Chang Ching-yao on a charge of supplying the rebels with food and money, while the latter occupied the city. The Hunan residents in the Capital are working hard to intercede on behalf of the culprit by wiring requests to General Chang for his release.

**"Cheer" from Japan.**  
To carry cheer into the trenches of France, a group of Japanese business men are trying to obtain ¥100,000 or more by public subscription before May 31, and will place the fund at the disposal of a committee of three to be despatched to France by the Japanese Y. M. C. A. early in June. Baron Nakajima presided at a luncheon given to Tokio newspaper editors, last week, when the campaign was launched. General Hibiki is at the head of a similar mission now in France.

**\$75,000 for Two Legs.**  
New York, March 8.—Private Henry Buman of Company C, 47th Infantry, who sued the Norfolk & Western Railway Company because his legs were cut off by a train while he was guarding the railroad's yards at Lynchburg, Va., was awarded a verdict of \$75,000 last night by a jury in Justice Dagro's part of the Supreme Court. Buman sued for \$150,000. His case had been on trial for ten days. Breitbart & Breitbart were his attorneys.

**Rev. George and Mrs. Sparham.**  
Through the departure of the Rev. George and Mrs. Sparham of the London Mission of Shanghai, says the U. C. Post, a tie with the port is being broken which stretches back to very early days. Mrs. Sparham was born in Wuchang where her father, the late Dr. Griffith John, was the first foreigner to secure a footing in the city, and Mr. Sparham has been one of the best known members of the mission circle in Hankow for the third of a century. They are appointed to Shanghai by the Home Board and once again Hankow has to put up with a serious loss for the benefit of the Settlement on the Huangpu.

**Yellowish Teeth Best.**  
A warning to fair-haired persons to look after their teeth with especial care between the ages of 18 and 25 years is given by a Japanese dental surgeon in the Dental Record, London. From his observations in practice Dr. Yamagishi is led to believe that the enamel covering the teeth of light-haired persons affords less protection to the underlying pulp than the enamel of the darker haired, and shows greater susceptibility to the attacks of germs of decay in early adult life. The best teeth for use and durability, if not for beauty, are, according to the same authority, not the classic pearly white ones beloved of poets, but slightly dark-coloured, teeth with translucent yellowish tint. Teeth of this quality best resist the action of decay-causing bacteria.

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## SHANGHAI COUNCIL COMMITTEES FOR 1918.

The following will be the Office Bearers and Standing Committees for the ensuing year:—

Chairman: Mr. E. C. Pearce. Vice-Chairman: Mr. A. S. P. White-Cooper.

Finance Committee: Count Jozieraki, Baron Fujimura and Mr. E. C. Pearce.

Works Committee: Messrs. Ezra, Meriman and Roberts.

Watch Committee: Messrs. White-Cooper, Johnstone and White.

The Council's representatives on the Sub-Committees will be as follows:—On the Electricity Committee: Messrs. White and White-Cooper; on the Health Committee, Messrs. White and White-Cooper; on the Permanent Education Committee, Mr. White-Cooper and on the Foreign Educational Committee, Mr. Pearce; on the Chinese Educational Committee, Mr. Ezra; on the Band Committee, Mr. White; on the Public Recreation Ground Committee, Mr. Meriman.

The membership of the Committee will, accordingly, be as follows:—

Electricity Committee: Messrs. Borkill, Neil, Peabler, White and White-Cooper.

Health Committee: Messrs. White-Cooper, Halse and White and Drs. Jackson and Marshall.

Permanent Education Committee: Rev. Dr. Hawk Post, Messrs. Ezra, Master, Pearce and White-Cooper.

Foreign Educational Committee: Messrs. Billingham and Meriman, Messrs. Dawson and Pearce, and Dr. Ivy.

Chinese Educational Committee: Rev. Hopkyn Rees, Messrs. Ezra, Phillips, Shen Tun-ho and Chioch Nieh.

Band Committee: Messrs. White and Green.

Parks Committee: Mr. Jenner Hogg, Rev. Brother Post and Mr. Peabler.

Library Committee: Mr. Maeter and Rev. Dr. MacGillivray.

Daylight Saving. All clocks in the United States were advanced one hour from 2 a.m. on Sunday, March 31, 1918.

## The Tank.

As the wild horse that once in forests ran is schooled and trained to be the friend of man;

As from the sarabes latterly is born the patient "that treadeth out the corn";

As the wild bear, transmuted by descent, becomes "the gentleman that pays the rent";

So the weird monster of a year ago—

Pictured in fond imagination's glow

As deinothorium of an older time, foetihyosaurus of primeval slime, Or pterodactyl—is transmogrified To sweet docility, his sullen pride Tempered to service, kindly to the bit,

Domesticated, frightened not a whit

By din of crowded cities, even named Julian, yet not apostate, nor ashamed

By gathering gifts that patriot hearts may yield

To serve at home the cause he serves abroad.

F. H. J.

## NOTICE

HONGKONG DOG, CAT, POULTRY AND PIGEON SHOW

1918.

THE above Show will be held at the Race Course on SATURDAY, the 27th April.

Entrance fees for Dogs and/or Cats \$2 each exhibit.

No entrance fee for Poultry or Pigeons.

Entry forms and a specimen cage for exhibiting Poultry are now available.

Entries close to the Undersecretary up to noon the 13th April.

G. W. GEGG.

Hon. Secretary &amp; Treasurer: c/o Messrs. HUGHES &amp; HOGUE, Hongkong, 26th March, 1918.

## Prepaid Advertisements.

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TO BE LET.—HOUSES on Shamoon, CANTON. OFFICES in York Buildings. No. 1 MORETON TERRACE. Apply to—THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT &amp; AGENCY CO., LTD.

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FOR SALE.—TUSCULUM, Barker Road, 155 Peak apply DUNCAN CLARK, c/o Lane, Crawford &amp; Co.

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	*Hirano Maru T. 16,000	THURS. 25th Apr. at 11 a.m.
	*Aki Maru T. 12,500	SAT. 26th Apr. at 11 a.m.
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TIENSIN	Kueichow	18th Apr. at noon.

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Haitan ...	A. E. Hodgins	FRI. 19th Apr. at noon.

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(Projected Sailings from Hongkong.—Subject to Alteration.)

For	Steamship	On
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SHANGHAI via Swatow, Wosang, Sun. 14th Apr. at 4 p.m.

TIENSIN ..... Chipshing Fri. 19th Apr. at daylight.

HAIPHONG ..... Taksang Fri. 19th Apr. at 7 a.m.

MANILA ..... Loongsang Fri. 19th Apr. at 3 p.m.

SANDAKAN ..... Mausing Sat. 24th Apr. at noon.

MANILA ..... Yuensang Fri. 26th Apr. at 3 p.m.

CALCUTTA LINE—Three sailings per month from Hongkong to Calcutta, calling at Singapore and Penang.

Returning from Calcutta steamers proceed to Kobe and Moji, frequently calling at Shanghai. These steamers have excellent passenger accommodation, are fitted with Electric Light and carry a fully qualified Surgeon. This line is temporarily discontinued owing to the war.

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## SHIPPING NEWS.

The T. K. K.

The accounts of the Toyo Kisen Kaisha show that the company's net profit for the past six months is ¥17,537,588, of which ¥13,000,000 is to be retained as reserve, the rest being distributed as dividends.

A Collision at Sea.

The Suma-maru (3,200 tons) of the Oi Kisen Kaisha, collided with the O.S.K. Hongkong-maru, 6,000 tons, off Nabeshima lighthouse, Sanuki, Shikoku, at daybreak on the 23rd ultimo. Both ships were damaged, but were able to proceed on their way. There were no casualties.—Japan Chronicle.

Chinwangtao's Shipping.

The total number and tonnage of vessels which entered and cleared at Chinwangtao during the quarter which ended in September 1917 was 262 vessels of 313,172 tons, showing, on comparison with the same quarter in 1916, an increase of 47 vessels and 11,931 tons. The percentages of the various flags were 53 per cent. Japanese, 20.4 per cent. Chinese, 19.3 per cent. British, 4.4 per cent. Norwegian, and 2.7 per cent. American.

British Shipping.

The movement in England against Government control of shipping is becoming very strong. There is one matter, however, on which it is held that Government control might be exercised. In a report issued by the Association of Chambers of Commerce it is stated:—"There is reason to believe that good might result shipping bodies were to take common ground with Chambers of Commerce that British shipping should not enter into things without the approval of the Government. If this course were adopted the responsibility would then rest upon the Cabinet of the day, and shipowners would be relieved of the invidious position in which pre-war results of the conference system have placed them."

Japanese Seamen's Pay.

About 250 seamen from ships privately owned held a meeting at the Takamichi Theatre, Minato-machi, Hyogo, on the 24th ultimo, with the object of urging their employers to increase their wages. It is said that the wages of ordinary seamen have never been increased since the outbreak of the war, their highest pay being not more than ¥30 per month. Some of the seamen present demanded that their wages should be raised to over ¥60 while others put the minimum at ¥100. After much discussion the meeting passed a resolution to the effect that the present wages should be doubled, and elected a committee of 11 to take steps necessary to get the resolution realised.—Japan Chronicle.

Revival of Tasmanian Shipping.

There is, says the "Sydney" every indication that at no distant date there will be a revival of shipbuilding in Hobart by private firms, quite apart from any operations which may be started by the Federal Government. Mr. Henry Jones has just had prepared for him by Messrs. Purdon and Featherstone, a model of a vessel, 135ft. long on the keel, about 150ft. overall, 30ft. beam, and 13ft. moulded depth, and he proposes to build two, and probably three, vessels of this size as soon as possible. These will be constructed of wood, and rigged as fore and aft schooners. They will be vessels of about 900 tons. It is not yet known where or by whom they will be constructed, but it is understood that if satisfactory arrangements can be made the three keels will be laid down simultaneously. When completed, the vessels will be employed in the inter-State trade. So far as can be ascertained, the vessels will be by far the largest ever built in Tasmania. In the early days a large number of square-rigged vessels, renowned for their speed, were constructed at Hobart and in other parts of the State for the overseas trade. Most of these were of 200 to 300 tons. The largest ever launched was, it is stated, the Tasman, a vessel of about 400 tons, which was built at Battery Point in the fifties by Mr. Henry Degraaf. The new schooners will be about 200 tons larger than this.







## REUTERS TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from Page 1.)

## THE LICHNOWSKY MEMORANDUM.

London, April 11.  
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam learns from Berlin that a secret sitting of the Prussian Upper House discussed the expulsion of all the members concerned in the Lichnowsky affair.

## General Staff Officer Arrested.

London, April 12.  
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam states that the arrest of Captain Beerfeldt of the German General Staff, for incitement and high treason in connection with Prince Liebowitz's memorandum, is announced in Germany, though the inspired Press asserts that the prosecution is only indirectly connected with the Lichnowsky affair. The *Vorwaerts* states that these inspired statements are calculated to astonish the world by creating the impression the traitor has been a member of the General Staff. The *Vorwaerts* says that Captain Beerfeldt, who is a member of the Brandenburg Junker aristocracy, received the first class Iron Cross early in the war. He was invited out of the Army and appointed to the General Staff. Here he learned the political side of the war, discovering secrets which "made the Junker officer feel as if he had fallen from heaven." Captain Beerfeldt confidentially wrote to General von Hindenburg: "Germany's fate after the war depends whether we really represent the true enemies." It is with truth alone we can withstand internal and external enemies." Captain Beerfeldt afterwards devoted himself to the cause of the workers. He was previously arrested for political motives but acquitted. The *Rheinisch Westfälische Zeitung* says that Captain Beerfeldt's arrest followed the discovery of his intimate relations with Independent Socialists and the Berlin strikes in January.

## YOKOHAMA DIVORCE CASE.

Davis v. Davis.

Is the Yokohama Ohito Seibundo, on the 26th March before Judge Shimoda and two Associate Judges, the hearing was resumed of the suit brought by Mr. E. C. Davis, of 216, Bluff, asking for divorce from his wife, Mrs. Clara Davis, who returned from America early this month.

The first hearing began on the 13th February but was discontinued, owing to the fact that the necessary documents had not been forwarded to Mrs. Davis.

Three Japanese lawyers of Tokyo—Messrs. Watanabe, Ishikawa and Suinaka—appeared as counsel for Mr. Davis, while Dr. Seichi Kiebi represented Mrs. Davis.

The *Japan Gazette*, in its report of the proceedings, says:—  
Mr. Watanabe, Counsel for Mr. Davis, stated that Mr. and Mrs. Davis were married in Yokohama in 1902 in accordance with British Law, and of the marriage there was one daughter. The couple, accompanied by their daughter Edina, went to America last spring, and after staying four or five months with the family, Mr. Davis returned alone to Yokohama at the end of last October, when he found that Mrs. Davis had established illegal relations with Mr. S. Isaac. Upon the discovery of this illicit relation, plaintiff decided to claim divorce from his wife, in accordance with British Law.

Counsel withdrew the statement that Mrs. Davis and an Australian Jockey named Coffey were on intimate terms while the jockey was in the service of Mr. Davis.

Replying to the contentions of plaintiff's counsel, Dr. Kiebi, counsel for Mrs. Davis, denied the alleged illicit relations between defendant and Mr. S. Isaac. He contended the allegations of plaintiff, except that Mr. and Mrs. Davis were married in Yokohama in 1902, that they proceeded to America with their daughter, and Mr. Davis returned alone to Yokohama.

Dr. Kiebi further stated that Mrs. Davis, while in America, learned that an action had been filed against her by her husband asking for a divorce and she hurriedly returned to Yokohama with her parents, by the Colombia. On arrival she proceeded in an automobile to her former residence on the Bluff, where she found that the front gate was shut against her, two or three Japanese men standing guard. Mrs. Davis, he said, has since been compelled to live with her parents on the Bluff. She is aware of certain relations between her husband and an American woman, during a recent voyage from America to Yokohama, but she has never disclosed this fact, being desirous of saving her husband.

Mr. Ishikawa, another counsel for Mr. Davis, sought to prove

## 1915—AND NOW.

When the first and second Battles of Ypres were being fought, this country possessed only three national munition factories and a few private armament firms, with the result that the only munition the British Army had were rifle cartridges and small shrapnel shells. To-day there are over 150 national factories, more than 5,000 firms controlled by the Ministry of Munitions turning out nothing but war material, and another 5,000 engaged on miscellaneous munition contracts. The comparative growth of war output is amazing. Reckoning the output in March 1915 was 100, our present output is over 3,000. The output of 18 pounder shells has increased over 30 times, of 4.5 field howitzers over 50 times, of medium guns and howitzers over 70 times, and heavy howitzers above 6 inch over 420 times. We make more shells now in a fortnight than we did in the whole first year of the war, and our output of machine-guns is over 30 times greater. But the demands of the war go far beyond guns, and shells, Aeroplanes, motor-torries in thousands, warships, merchantships, all these have to be supplied, and the labour found to make them. Female labour has been the means of solving this problem, for, whereas at the outbreak of war there were about 200,000 women in engineering industries, there are now more than 1,000,000, a very large proportion of whom are doing skilled work.

## Typhoon Warning.

The following telegram was received from the Manila Observatory at the American Consulate General at 12.30 p.m. to-day:—  
Cyclone or typhoon E. of southern Luzon, moving N.N.W.

## The Forthcoming Show.

We are asked to state that late entries will be accepted up till Monday night in connection with the Dog, Cat, Poultry and Pigeon Show.

Mrs. Davis' illicit relations on the testimony of two witnesses—Mr. H. E. Manwaring, Manager of the Grand Hotel, and Mrs. Ko Yamaguchi, wife of the Manager of the Fuji Hotel at Miyazaki-shi, Continuing Counsel stated that Mr. Manwaring saw Mr. Isaac and Mrs. Davis walking in the Yokohama Park last year, while Mrs. Yamaguchi stated that Mr. Isaac and Mrs. Davis put up at the Fuji Hotel two years ago. The defendant's Counsel, Dr. Kiebi, denied all the contentions made by the plaintiff's counsel.

The next hearing will be on the 23rd April, when Mr. Manwaring and Mrs. Yamaguchi will be summoned as witnesses.

## HAPPY VALLEY DISASTER.

## The Jury's Finding.

Yesterday, the twenty second day of the inquiry into the terrible occurrence at Happy Valley on February 26, brought the proceedings to a close. As reported in yesterday's issue, the Coroner (Mr. J. R. Wood) summed up at considerable length and submitted to the jury a number of questions which he suggested they should answer. The jury was—Messrs. A. H. Barlow, J. H. Wallace and W. C. Jack.

Those present in Court included:—Mr. G. H. Wakeman (Crown Solicitor), Mr. F. B. L. Bowley (for the matched contractors, Sze Hop), Mr. Leo D'Almada (for relatives of victims and some lessees of sheds), Mr. M. K. Lo (for relatives of victims), Mr. D. V. Stevenson (for the lessees of United Stand, Nos. 4, 5 and 6), the Captain Superintendent of Police, Hon. Mr. C. M. I. Messer, a number of lessees and others.

The jury retired at 4.30 p.m., and at 6 o'clock, returned, when the foreman read the answers to the Coroner's questions. They were as follows:—

Was the collapse of the matched sheds caused by fire?—No.

Was it caused by deliberate cutting of loadings?—No.

If the answers to these questions is in the negative, then was it caused by a failure of the structure to meet demands made upon it by legitimate use?—Yes.

If so was the failure due to the use of unserviceable material by the matched contractor Kwok Hin?—No.

If the material was serviceable then was the failure due to some imperfection in the design of the sheds having regard to the purpose for which they were intended?—It might have been due to some imperfection in design; it also might have been due to some unsuspected fault or latent defect in the material used.

Can you indicate any feature in the design which was obviously fatal to the safety of the sheds?—No.

Can you point out any feature or group of features in the design which was apparently a point of weakness?—The absence of struts at the rear of sheds 9 to 15 inclusive. The lack of any general system of cross bracing in the front and rear walls of the sheds.

Can you point out any features which aggravated the tendency to collapse once the collapse had begun?—The want of continuity in the levels of the roofs and floors, also the position of the great majority of the staircases.

Do you consider that the omission to insert the main upright pole in the ground was an error in construction?—No.

Was the strain under which the structure failed the presence either throughout the sheds or in any part of them of a large crowd of people?—Yes.

Was the normal strain increased by panic before the failure?—There is no direct evidence that it was.

Was the strain such that it could have been reasonably foreseen and provided for at the time when the sheds were constructed?—There is no evidence that the sheds were subjected to undue strain.

In the erection of the sheds did the matched contractor exercise reasonable care and skill?—Yes.

In instructing the contractor to erect these sheds and in inviting the public to enter these sheds without limit of number did each lessee exercise such care as a prudent man would ordinarily use in his affairs?—Yes.

In inspecting these sheds did the Building Inspector use due diligence and exercise the degree of skill which he possessed?—Yes.

At what point in the row of sheds did the failure first become apparent?—At some point between sheds 8 to 15 inclusive but we are unable to decide the exact point.

At what point did the outbreak of fire originate?—At some point between sheds 8 to 10 inclusive.

And from what cause?—The inflammable matting coming in contact with the burning charcoal from some cooking object.

In what sheds or portions of sheds were cooking arrangements in use?—In the basement of No. 6 and on the ground floors of Nos. 7, 8, 10, 11, 12, 17 to 19 and 22. With reference to No. 15 occupants state that no cooking was going on at the time of the collapse. With reference to the basement of No. 18 there was

cooking arrangements according to the contractor, but this is denied by one of the lessees.

In what sheds were fire precautions adopted?—Nos. 4, 5, 6 and 8. Was cooking with charcoal in Chinese kitchens in these sheds an imprudent act?—Yes.

It is so important as to be grossly negligent?—No.

Did any act or any omission of duty on the part of any public officer constitute approximate and efficient cause of the death under consideration?—No.

What is your verdict?—Death due to infliction the result either of the collapse or of the fire or both. We do not attribute criminal negligence to anyone in connection with this death.

With regard to Mr. Lo's supplementary questions.

Was it practicable, having regard to the purpose for which they were intended, to have had the sheds erected separately?—Yes.

If so would this form of construction offer greater security to the public with regard to fire or collapse?—Yes.

The foreman also said:—We desire to put on record the fact that the Hongkong Jockey Club had neither responsibility nor interest in the sheds except as lessees of No. 1 to 3 and that the Royal Hongkong Golf Club were in no way concerned with the regulations nor in the conditions governing the construction or use of the sheds.

## GOVERNMENT DEPARTMENT.

With regard to the two Government Departments whose actions have so largely come within the scope of the inquiry we wish to place on record the conclusions we have come to respecting same.

## PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.

We regret that the Director of Public Works has not in previous years laid down definite standards of construction for these race stands matched. Admitting that the lack of reliable data as to the strength of the material customarily used in matched construction makes the efficient checking of plans difficult, this is hardly a valid reason for dispensing with all criticism of contractors' drawings; neither is the fact that no such check on the methods of construction has been exercised in former years sufficient to exonerate the Director of Public Works from the charge of failing to carry out his duties as laid down by the Hongkong Ordinances. We are of the opinion that the race stand matched during construction and on completion should have been inspected by a qualified engineer.

Not having the history of the development of the Water System of the Colony before us, we suspend judgment on the question whether the administration of the Water Authority has been negligent in not making provision for a better supply of water in the neighbourhood of the Happy Valley. It must be borne in mind however that his attention was drawn some years ago by the Police Department to the fact that the supply was insufficient for fire purposes. We are of the opinion that the present water supply is inadequate.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT.

We consider that the Captain Superintendent of Police acted in not taking on his own initiative obvious necessary precautions for the safety of the public, and the fact that he was not officially notified by the Public Works Department with regard to these sheds does not exculpate him.

While it is an open question whether the great loss of life could have been prevented, or even curtailed, had an ample water supply, the necessary fire appliances, and the assistance of experienced firemen been immediately available, still that does not excuse the failure of the Captain Superintendent of Police to foresee and provide against such a contingency as an outbreak of fire in the matched race stands.

We would add in conclusion that there appears to have been a regrettable lack of consultation and co-operation between the Police and Public Works Department with regard to arrangements which immediately concern both Departments.

## RECOMMENDATIONS.

That in view of the danger from fire the practice of permitting the use of temporary racestands constructed of such inflammable materials as matting and bamboo be discontinued.

The accommodation required, in addition to that provided within the Hongkong Jockey Club enclosure, should take the form of suitable permanent buildings in which all inflammable material is eliminated as far as possible.

## ST. GEORGE'S TOMBOLA.

## A Fine Collection of Gifts.

When an invitation was issued by the St. George's Society for the residents of Hongkong to donate prizes for the Tombola it was expected that a liberal response would be made, but what has actually been forthcoming has proved a welcome surprise to all. This morning a representative of the *Hongkong Telegraph* was given an opportunity of inspecting the magnificent collection of gifts that has been sent in and it was nothing less than a wonderful testimony to the generosity which when a charitable appeal is made. Many hundreds of really valuable prizes have been presented, ranging from a piano to a drawing table requisite, and those who fail to purchase a spill and try their luck in winning a prize will miss an opportunity never likely to recur.

Such a profusion of gifts were assembled that it was impossible to accurately estimate their number or worth. As announced, the sale of spills, at the price of \$1, will commence in practically all the shops of the Colony on Monday, and it is to be hoped that, as a mark of appreciation to those who have given presents, as well as supporting a charitable call, that the sale will be large. The sale of spills continues until St. George's Day, and thus residents have a week in which to secure a chance in what is undoubtedly the finest opportunity of its kind ever presented in Hongkong.

If owing to local conditions it is not found possible to act on the recommendations contained in the two preceding paragraphs and a continuance of the employment of matched sheds as race stands is found to be absolutely necessary, then special precautions should be taken to ensure the safety of the public using the sheds. The framing of the necessary regulations to render a repetition of the recent awful disaster impossible must rest with the Government, but we would like to draw special attention to the following obvious safeguards:

Necessity of leaving sufficient intervals between each shed to prevent, or at any rate retard, the spread of fire.

Confining the structures to one floor only and limiting the height from the ground at which that floor may be built.

Prevention of overcrowding.

Provision of sufficient exits.

Total prohibition of the use of oil lamps, naked lights and fires for cooking.

Attendance at the racecourse of firemen on duty with fire appliances ready for instant use.

Provision of a sufficient water supply to cope successfully and immediately with any outbreak of fire.

Further the duties of the several Government Departments concerned should be clearly defined especially with regard to:

The planning of the sheds.

The passing of the structures, as conforming with all Government requirements.

Inspection of same while in use.

Steps to be taken to ensure the provision of an adequate water supply.

Enforcement of all regulations laid down for the guidance and control, in particular of the public using or the lessees of matched race stands and in general of any contemplated assembly of people in a public place.

That the Government should initiate enquiry with the object of demonstrating and recording the physical properties of the materials used in matched construction.

SEE JUDICIAL.

The Coroner: The Gentlemen I thank you for the care and attention which you have given in this very long inquiry and I think I am doing right in tendering to you the thanks of the Colony for the work which you have done. I shall take the earliest opportunity of forwarding a copy of the finding in full to the Government and also I shall have pleasure in submitting a request to the Chief Justice to grant you a long period of exemption from service on the jury.

## MR. LIANG SHIH-YI INTERVIEWED.

Mr. Liang Shih-yi has given an interview to a reporter in the course of which the following questions were asked and answered regarding certain financial and industrial problems:—

Question:—What is your opinion on the financial condition of the country?

Answer:—Normal conditions have not yet been restored to the country, and the provinces have detained all the proceeds of Central Government Revenue for local use. A skilful cook cannot bake bread without flour. It is no wonder that the Central Government is at its wits' end. It is the talk of everybody that reforms should be introduced into the financial administration of the country, but the problem is "how to begin." Taking advantage of the unsettled conditions, officials have commenced the practice of corruption on a large scale. These officials may be divided into several classes. There may be honest officials to fill the responsible posts of Directors of Bureaux, but their influence has not been sufficient to enforce discipline among their underlings. According to my opinion no reform can be introduced before peace and order have been restored to the country.

Question:—What is your object of co-operating with the Japanese in developing the industry of the country?

Answer: I have been co-operating with foreigners in promoting more than a dozen industrial enterprises, in all of which I have sought to advance the interests and welfare of the nation. The co-operation is demanded by the requirements of the time. There are two essential things in connection with industrial enterprises, namely, the capital and the management. Although Chinese merchants have always been successful in their commercial enterprises, they have failed to understand the principal thing in the use of the capital, which should be kept circulating all the time. With Foreign merchants, it is quite different. When the latter purchase a property, say at the cost of \$10,000, they would be glad to dispose of the same at a gain of 10 per cent. But if the former purchase anything, they would keep it, and leave it to their descendants with strict injunctions not to sell the same. Thus when the capital gets into the hands of the Chinese merchants it at once becomes stagnant. Again, owing to the lack of good regulations the Chinese merchants do not know how to make a company prosper. As soon as there is any profit the shareholders insist upon the division of the profits. When the capital is restricted the company will be bound to fail or drag on a miserable existence. It is unnecessary to say that should a company be properly financed, and its shareholders be willing to invest a part of their profits to increase the capital, success will be certain. The chief reason which has actuated me to start co-operation with foreigners is to teach the Chinese merchants the secret of success. I have decided to make all my industrial enterprises models for others to copy. In order to have good management, the services of men of talent and experience should be employed. There are technical experts and there are men of experience who possess the power of organisation and management. As such men cannot be found in China, I have decided that my enterprises should be started with the joint capital of Chinese and foreigners, giving the former an opportunity to learn from the latter. Many objections have been raised on the ground that there will be severe loss to the country if foreigners are introduced. I believe that the losses referred to are the employment of foreigners with high salaries, and the purchase of machinery etc. from foreign countries. These things are inevitable in view of the present conditions in the country. Of course we will have proper contract agreements signed. I am specially anxious for the livelihood of the poor people, and am of this opinion that the Japanese

## TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

The 74th in France of two brothers, Walter and Thomas, and Thomas's mother, 74, found it light a series of remarkable coincidences, says the *South London Press*. The men—

Worked for the same firm. Married two sisters on Christmas Day 1914.

Started business in adjoining flat in Brighton.

Joined the London Regiment and went out to the front together. After 21 months fighting side-by-side came home on leave together in December last.

Returned to the front on December 23, and on January 19, were both killed by the same shell.

One of Captain Scott's companions on that last and fatal expedition relate that often, under the most trying conditions, the only relief to be found was in discussing the pleasures of the table. Letters from the front similarly show that oftentimes our man's solitary diversion from almost overpowering boredom in the daily problem of food supply. To the ordinary Tommy the most important man in the company is the storeman, whose duty it is to issue the daily rations. When a soldier shouts to his neighbour, "What are Jimmie's odds to-day?" there is no intention of making a bet. He is merely talking in trench language about how many men a loaf has to be divided that day. They interpret the varying "odds" as follows:—

Three men to one loaf: Not so bad.

Two men to one loaf: True bon.

Five men to two loaves: Pretty decent.

Seven men to two loaves: Things bad.

Nine men to two loaves: Rotter.

Biscuits and no bread: No bon.

Conceivably, like everything else, have had to submit to a process of classification; and the derivation of the new terms is either very obscure or very definite—generally the former. Porridge has been metamorphosed into "burgoo," jam has changed into "pomp," bread is known as "mangars" or "heavy," cheese rejoices in the appellation of "bongo," while rotten meat is endowed with the somewhat magnificent yet, one is afraid, derogatory title of "flag of all nations."

Few regions can boast a more heterogeneous conglomerate of races than the Caucasus, which, according to report, intend to declare itself an independent republic. Some seventy different languages are said to be current within its boundaries, but among a medley of peoples there suggest a philologist's paradise, the most interesting and important of the Georgians. A people of mysterious antecedents, their race, according to some ethnologists, being older even than the Egyptians, the Georgians stand upon a higher plane of civilization than any of their neighbours, and are truly the aristocrats of the Caucasus. Formerly Georgia was an independent Kingdom, and its people, owing to its Christianity in the fourth century, have never relapsed into the Mohammedanism of the surrounding tribes. Their golden age was the twelfth century, in the days of the great Queen Tamara. To-day there are no more kings in Georgia, but an amazing number of princes. It is a Georgian joke that every Georgian, whatever his occupation, boasts a title. It might be added, with more truth, that nearly every Georgian is a potent.

## Bank of Chosen Shanghai Branch.

The Shanghai Branch of the Bank of Chosen, with a capital of 20,000,000 yen, was opened for the transference of business on the 10th inst., at No. 7, Hankow Road, formerly occupied by the Mercantile Bank of India. Mr. Hashimoto is the manager.

are the foreigners we should approach. They have the capital; they are political and financial work-horses. They are the backbone of the country.



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## WAR BOND DRAWING

# 3 QUESTIONS AND 3 ANSWERS

QUESTION A.—How many tickets have you purchased or how many are you interested in?

ANSWER A.—99.

QUESTION B.—Is the winning number amongst them?

ANSWER B.—Of Course!

QUESTION C.—If so what are you going to do with the proceeds?

ANSWER C.—Give 1/3rd to Charity and pouch the balance.

The foregoing are reasonable answers to the questions but you may have some better ones; if so, please submit them to "War Bond Answers," Post Office Box No. 351, Hongkong, who will give judgment thereon, and sender of the best answers will receive TWO WAR BOND TICKETS AND 5 TOMBOLA SPILLS. Any number of alternative answers may be sent in but winner will be required to produce a War Bond Ticket already purchased for each answer submitted. All alternative answers to be sent in by the 23rd of April. They may be in comic, poetic or tragic vein.

Judging of answers will be made by the St. George's Day Publicity Committee!

TICKETS are on sale at Banks, Clubs, Hotels, Leading Stores, and the Hongkong and South China War Saving Association c/o the Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.

## COMMERCIAL NEWS.

Yokohama Specie Bank.  
The gross profits of the Yokohama Specie Bank for the half-year ended December 31 1917, including ¥2,228,757.81 brought forward amounted to ¥51,984,743.82 from which the sum of ¥46,084,294.89 was deducted for interests, taxes, current expenses, rebate on bills, current, bad and doubtful debts, bonus for officers and clerks, etc., leaving a balance of ¥5,889,448.73 for appropriation. At the meeting at Yokohama on March 9 ¥1,000,000.00 was added to the reserve fund, and a dividend at the rate of 12 per cent. per annum was declared absorbing ¥2,169,000.00. The balance, ¥2,720,448.73, was carried forward. The bank has decided to establish new branches at Shimomoto, Manila, Java, Surabaya, and Batavia.

F.M.S. Prosperity.  
From a financial statement published in the Federated Malay States Government Gazette, it would appear that during the first nine months of 1917 the F.M.S. invested about \$14,000,000 in British War Loans—making about 30 millions in all so invested up to that date. The presentation of a dreadnought to the British Navy, a cash gift which may ultimately reach the best part of \$2,000,000 with more to go, is no mean help rendered by these small States with a population of little more than a million, says the *Malay Mail*.

When in the year gone by the British Government told the Malay Sultans that British Government would administer the Government on their behalf, how little could the authorities have foreseen that their trusteeship would not only give safety to British traders, but would ultimately be of enormous benefit to the protecting Power. Tin, of course, was extensively worked by the Chinese even then, but there was apparently no other source of wealth from a jungle-covered land which possessed neither roads nor railways.

Compulsory War Loan.  
Details of proposals to compel subscriptions to war loans, as usually carried into law in New Zealand, are given in the Board of Trade Journal. Taxpayers whose liability in some far the year ended March 31, 1916, was not less than £700 are required to subscribe up to the loan authorized to be raised by the War Purposes Loan Act, 1917, an amount equal to three times the total amount of land tax and

## EXCHANGE.

### SELLING.

T/T Demand	3/1
30 d/s	3/1 1/2
60 d/s	3/1 1/4
4 m/s	3/1 1/4
T/T Shanghai	14 1/4
T/T Singapore	13 1/4
T/T Japan	14 1/4
T/T India	Nom.
Demand, India	Nom.
T/T San Francisco	73 1/4
co & New York	73 1/4
T/T Java	160 1/4
T/T Marks	Nom.
T/T France	4 1/2
Demand, Paris	4 1/2 1/4

### BUYING.

4 m/s L/C	3/2 1/4
4 m/s D/P	3/2 1/4
6 m/s L/C	3/2 1/4
30 d/s Sydney & Melbourne	3/2 1/4
30 d/s San Francisco & New York	74 1/4
4 m/s Marks	Nom.
4 m/s France	4 1/2
Demand, Germany	4 1/2
Demand, New York	Nom.
T/T Bombay	Nom.
Demand, Bombay	Nom.
T/T Calcutta	Nom.
Demand, Calcutta	Nom.
Demand, Manila	147
Demand, Singapore	13 1/4
On Haiphong	14 1/4 prem.
On Saigon	17 prem.
On Bangkok	49 1/2
Sovereign	6 40 Nom.
Gold Leaf, per oz.	43 30
Bar Silver, per oz.	46 1/4

## SUBSIDIARY COINS.

DISCOUNT PER \$100:	
H'kong 5 cts sub.	\$2.00 1/2 dia.
" 10 "	" par.
" 50 "	" 1.00 1/2 dia.
Canton 20 "	" 7 1/2 1/2 dia.

income-tax (exclusive of excess profits duty) for which he was liable under the Finance Act, 1916. If, however, any taxpayer to whom this section (14) relates has subscribed to the loan authorized to be raised by Section 35 of the Finance Act, 1916, an amount exceeding one and a half times the amount of tax for which he was liable, the amount so contributed by him in excess will be deducted from the amount which he is obliged under this section to subscribe to the War Purposes Loan, and his obligation to subscribe to that loan will be modified accordingly. The idea of compulsory subscriptions to war loans has been discussed in many countries, but, as far as we are aware, comments the *Economist*, this is the first instance during the present war of the idea being put into practice.

## BANKS

### BANK OF CANTON, LIMITED.

HEAD OFFICE, HONGKONG

FOREIGN EXCHANGE and General Banking Business Transacted.

### INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 Months 3% per annum.

For 6 Months 4% per annum.

For 12 Months 4 1/2% per annum.

LOOK POON SHAN,  
Chief Manager.

### BANQUE INDUSTRIELLE DE CHINE.

Subscribed Capital ... France 45,000,000.  
Paid up 25,500,000.  
(14 of the Capital, i.e. France 13,000,000 subscribed by the Government of the Chinese Republic.)

Chairman of the Board of Directors: Andre Berthelot.  
General Manager: A. J. Fernette.

HEAD OFFICE:  
74, Rue Saint Lazare, PARIS.

### BRANCHES:

SHANGHAI, TIENTSIN, HONGKONG, SAIGON, HAIPHONG, YUNNANFOU.

IN FRANCE: Societe Generale pour favoriser le Developpement du Commerce et de l'Industrie en France.  
LONDON: London County & Westminster Bank, Ltd.  
NEW YORK: Richmond & Co.  
Correspondents in the chief commercial centres of the world.

Telegraphic Address: CHIBANKIND.

Interest on Current Accounts and Fixed Deposits in Local Currency and in Gold. Terms on application.  
Every description of Banking and Exchange business transacted.  
Special facilities for French exchange.  
M. ROUETTE JOURNAL, Manager.

HONGKONG BRANCH,  
Queen's Building,  
5, Chater Road. Tel. 2440.

## NOTICES.

### PEAK TRAMWAY CO. LIMITED.

TIME TABLE.	
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## Embassy Cigarettes

There has been no alteration in size, weight, quality or manufacture of "Embassy" since 1914.

Every Virginia Leaf used in the manufacture of Embassy Cigarettes is selected and blended by specialists, skilled in the art of their profession.

Sold in Boxes of 10 & in airtight tins of 25 & 50 Cigarettes.

This advertisement is issued by British-American Tobacco Company Ltd.

### GEO. P. LAMMERT.

AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER  
AND SURVEYOR.

#### PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction on

MONDAY, the 15th April, 1918,

commencing at 11 a.m.  
at the Tatoo Sugar Refinery  
(For account of the concerned)  
133 Bales Gunny Bags  
(slightly damaged by fire and water.)

543 Bales Gunny Bags  
(slightly damaged by water.)  
N.B. Intending purchasers must obtain a pass to view the goods from the undersigned.

Terms:—Cash on delivery.  
GEO. P. LAMMERT  
Auctioneer.

#### NOTICES.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP  
COMPANY LIMITED.

AN Interim Dividend of 8% (\$4.00) per share has been declared payable on the 18th instant. Transfer Books will be closed from the 15th to the 18th instant both days inclusive.

DOUGLAS, LAPRAIK & CO.  
General Managers,  
Douglas Steamship Co. Ltd.  
Hongkong, 9th April, 1918.

#### THIRD LIBERTY LOAN.

THE Subscription List for the THIRD LIBERTY LOAN of U.S. \$5,000,000,000 carrying interest at 4 1/4 per cent. per annum closes in America on 4th May, 1918.

THE INTERNATIONAL BANKING CORPORATION is prepared to receive applications up to 25th April, on the following terms:—  
5% on application.  
20% on 21st May.  
35% on 11th July.  
40% on 8th August,  
and will also grant loans against this security.

#### NOTICES.

##### HONGKONG SCHOOLS' SPORTS.

THE Athletic Sports for the combined Hongkong Schools will be held on FRIDAY, April 19th, at the Racecourse. There be the usual races for pupils, namely, Two Miles Bicycle Race (Handicap) and Seven Furlongs Flat Race (Handicap). The entrance fee for these two races is 50 cents, and the names may be given in on the field.

##### MARATHON RACE.

Open to all Services, Universities, Colleges, Schools and the Public generally.

Statue Square (Law Courts) to Shaikwan and back.  
Distance, about 10 miles.

SATURDAY, April 13th 1918.

Starting at 3 P.M.

Prizes according to number of Entries.

Conditions:—Go as you please. No stopping.

Minimum clothing: singlet and shorts.

Entrance fee one Dollar, to be sent with name and rank (if any) to:—

Staff Inspector J. C. Wildin,  
Hongkong Police Reserve Headquarters.

Princes Buildings,  
Ice House Street.

Entries close on Saturday, April, 6th.

##### KEROSENE OIL.

We guarantee all kerosene oil sold by us to be pure and unadulterated.

Present price:—

"WHITE ROSE."

\$5.55 per case ex store.

"COMET."

\$5.35 per case ex store.

CHING CHEONG

168 Des Voeux Road Central,  
2 blocks West of Cent. Market.

KWONG YUEN

19 Des Voeux Road, West.

#### NOTICES.

##### WAI KEE.

FLAG & SAILMAKER  
No. 119, Des Voeux Road Central  
Top Floor,  
HONGKONG.  
Telephone No. 1833

##### ASAHI BEER.



Mitsui Bussan Kaisha

Telephone No. 1000

### EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

#### THE STRUGGLE IN FRANCE.

##### The Flanders Front Extended.

London, April 11.  
Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters, writing on April 11 says: The Flanders battle is steadily extending along the line. German aircraft in considerable numbers are supporting the attack. The enemy yesterday was reported in the neighbourhood of Steenacker. Yesterday afternoon artillery and trench mortar activity heavily increased around Ypres as far as Passchendaele. We appear to be holding our counter gains about Messines.

It was believed at two o'clock this morning that our line ran eastward of Ploegsteert village through Ploegsteert wood, thence past St. Yves almost due northward past Oostaverne, joining our old line near Hollebeke. The enemy last evening was attacking south of Hollebeke and made a small gain of ground. Thus it will be seen that our front had assumed a very zigzag line, but nowhere had the Germans pushed beyond our battle-zone, notwithstanding his great weight. Northward of Hill 60 the situation is reported unchanged. Just before dawn we opened a heavy protective barrage upon the sectors upon which the enemy might be expected to attempt an advance. The continued German inactivity south of Arras looks as if they were awaiting the result of the Flanders offensive before developing further plans. Between the Scarpe and the Somme the enemy aircraft is watching our movements as far as our airmen allow them.

A French communique states: Our artillery was active at night-time between Montdidier and Noyon. Our fire dispersed an enemy detachment in the region of Orvillers and Sorel before it reached our lines. An enemy attack on our advanced posts east of Soisy, in Champagne, was repulsed after a lively engagement. An enemy attempt in the Forest of Apremont failed under fire. Two enemy aeroplanes were brought down yesterday by machine-gun fire.

The Press Bureau states: Sir Douglas Haig has congratulated the Commander and all officers and men of the 55th Division on their splendid fighting on Tuesday, especially at Festubert and Givenchy.

#### THE SUBMARINE MENACE.

##### The Reduction in Sinkings.

London, April 11.  
The reduction in sinkings is associated with the German offensive. It is recalled that Field Marshal Hindenburg tacitly admitted the failure of submarine warfare when he assured the Socialist delegation at Berlin a few weeks ago that in the offensive in the west it was certain that success would cost 400,000 German lives but peace would come this August. This is a striking contrast to Hindenburg's Army Order of February, 1917, when he said the submarine offered the best means of a speedy ending to the war. It is pointed out in London that 800,000 British troops crossed the channel in ten days since the resumption of the offensive. It is believed that Germany's submarine efforts are decreasing owing to the concentration of labour and material on the land offensive, while the work of the British Navy is having the effect of destroying submarines at twice the rate of a year ago.

#### BRITISH MAN-POWER QUESTION.

##### Engineers Favour Combining Out.

London, April 11.  
The new ballot of the Amalgamated Society Engineers voted in favour of the Governments combining out proposals by 58,660 to 46,332.

In the House of Commons, Mr. John Hope urged that all members of the House of Commons militarily eligible should be called up. Mr. Beck replied that the War Cabinet had decided that they had the choice of serving in the forces or remaining in the House of Commons. In view of the fact that the tribunal held that a member of the House of Commons was elected in order to do work of national importance this option would be continued.

#### CANADIAN WAR EXPENDITURE.

##### Ottawa, April 11.

In the House of Commons, Sir Robert Borden said the war expenditure of Canada so far has been \$28,000,000 dollars. The expenditure for the current year is estimated to be \$216,000,000, including \$443,000,000 military expenditure, of which \$225,000,000 will be expended abroad while \$34,000,000 will be spent on the construction of trans-Atlantic merchantmen.

#### BRITISH REPRESENTATIVE AT VERSAILLES.

##### London, April 11.

In the House of Commons, Mr. Bonar Law stated that Major General Sackville West has been appointed acting British military representative on the Supreme War Council at Versailles in place of General Rawlinson.

#### THE PALESTINE CAMPAIGN.

##### More Villages Taken.

##### London, April 11.

A Palestine official message says: Our troops westward of the Tulkarm-Ramleh Railway advanced the line on a five mile front for 14 miles in depth capturing the villages of Elkef, and Bafel. The prisoners included a few Germans.

#### GERMAN CENSORSHIP.

##### Pan-Germanism Given Full Play.

On January 17th the Main Committee of the Reichstag dealt with the censorship question. The deputy Herr Goehne declared that the arbitrary conduct of the commanding generals exceeded all bounds, though only those possessing certain political views were the sufferers. The propaganda of the Fatherland Party was abetted and strong pressure was exercised on Government officials to join the Fatherland Party.

He proceeded:—"Count Bothmer, acting on behalf of Admiral von Tirpitz, has declared that the submarine war should have begun a year earlier than it was. All criticism of this view is, however, prevented by the censorship; innumerable articles on this subject by Captain Penck have already been suppressed. An article

by Vice-Admiral von Galster on the development of U-boat construction was prohibited on the grounds of scarcity of paper. It was even forbidden to refer to the fact that von Galster had been made an honorary doctor. The Kaiser and the Imperial Chancellor may be attacked, but the leader of the Fatherland Party must remain sacrosanct."

The speaker cited the case of a man who was not permitted to visit his wife, who was seriously ill in Holland, because he was suspected of pacifist leanings. Professor Quidd's pamphlets were suppressed but Pan-German pamphlets were allowed to appear. The Prussian War Ministry warned the publication of one of his pamphlets, although it had been already passed by the censorship in Saxony. The German Peace Society was not allowed even to circulate its programme. Nothing he said, would improve until the censorship was taken out of the hands of the military authorities.

### ENTERTAINMENTS.

## VICTORIA THEATRE.

APRIL 12th, 13th, 14th & 15th, 1918.

## "THE FATAL RING."

Episode 9:

Episode 10:

"THE DICE OF DEATH"

"THE PERILOUS PLUNGE."

Pathe's British Gazette No. 439

And

Comedies.

Special engagement

of

May Yohe

in

Ballads & Patriotic Songs.

For

To-night only.

## THE ALEXANDRA CAFE.

First Class Grill Room & Restaurant.

EUROPEAN BAKERS CONFECTIONERS & CATERERS.

Tel. 908

16, Des Voeux Road, Central.

To suit the convenience of our numerous Customers we have re-arranged the PRICES of our monthly TIFFIN and DINNER tickets.

From APRIL 15th these

Tickets will be issued

at \$18. each.

The Tickets are available

For 30 Tiffins.

or Dinners

ESTIMATES GIVEN FOR PICNICS, TEAS, DINNERS, ETC.

PROMPT & EFFICIENT SERVICE GUARANTEED.  
Mrs. N. BABBAGE,

#### POST OFFICE.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Registered and Parcel Mails close 15 minutes earlier than the time given below unless otherwise stated.

The Parcel Post service to places in Southwestern Province is suspended until further notice.

The London Post Office advises that all parcels (except those for Prisoners of War) and all sample packets for Denmark, Holland, Norway, Spain, Sweden, and Switzerland will be stopped by the Military Censor unless posted under a War Office permit.

The importation into the Commonwealth of Australia of tea, other than that grown or produced in British Possessions is prohibited, unless the consent in writing of the Commonwealth Minister for Trade and Customs has been first obtained.

The Parcel Post Services to British East Africa and Egypt (except for members of the Expeditionary Forces), and to Abyssinia, Bagdad, Ethiopia, French Somaliland, Italian Somaliland, Portuguese East Africa, Zanzibar and Russia have been suspended.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Siam, and other places in the Province of Yunnan should be addressed with the words "For delivery by the Chinese Post Office."

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Uninsured parcels for the United Kingdom will in future be forwarded from Hongkong in bags and the Public are therefore advised to pack such parcels very carefully.

Letters franked at the 6 cents rate addressed to Yunnan, and Mongolia and other places in the Province of Yunnan should be addressed with the words "For delivery by the Chinese Post Office."

Parcels for Greece cannot be accepted for transmission unless accompanied by a special permit issued by the British Minister at Athens.

Arrangements have been made for the transmission of parcels to the United Kingdom via Canada.

The rates of postage are as follows:—  
Parcel not over 5 lbs. . . . 50 cents.  
Do. 7 lbs. . . . \$1.50  
Do. 11 lbs. . . . \$2.75

No insurance can be effected on parcels sent by this route.

FROM SHEUNGWAN WESTERN BRANCH P.O.

Macao.—Week days, 7.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m. Sundays, 8.30 a.m.; Holidays 7.30 a.m. to 1.30 p.m.

Canton.—Week days, 7.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m. Sundays, 9.30 a.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m. to 3.30 p.m.

Tai Ping Tung.—Week days, 9.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. Sundays, 9.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

Shak K.—Week days, 9.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m. Sundays, 9.30 p.m. to 1.30 p.m.

Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Except Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5 p.m.

Kamukuk.—Week days, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Except Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 5 p.m.

Kaukung.—Week days, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Except Saturdays; Sundays 9 p.m. to 11 p.m.

#### OUTWARD MAILS.

##### TO-MORROW.

Swatow, Amoy and Foochow—14th April, 9 a.m.

Formosa via Keelung—14th April, 9 a.m.

Weihaiwei & Chefoo—14th April, 9 a.m.

Hainan—14th April, 9 a.m.

Swatow Amoy and Formosa via Keelung—14th April, 9 a.m.

Swatow Amoy and Formosa via Keelung—15th April, 9 a.m.

Swatow Amoy and Foochow—15th April, Noon.

TUESDAY, 16th April.

Amoy—16th April, 9 a.m.

THURSDAY, 18th April.

Tientsin—18th April, 11 a.m.

FRIDAY, 19th April.

Swatow, Amoy and Foochow—19th April, Noon.

Philippine Islands—19th April, 3 p.m.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, by George William Oade Barnett at 11 Le House Street, in the City of Victoria Hong Kong.